

# Join in the Fight for Your Civil Rights!

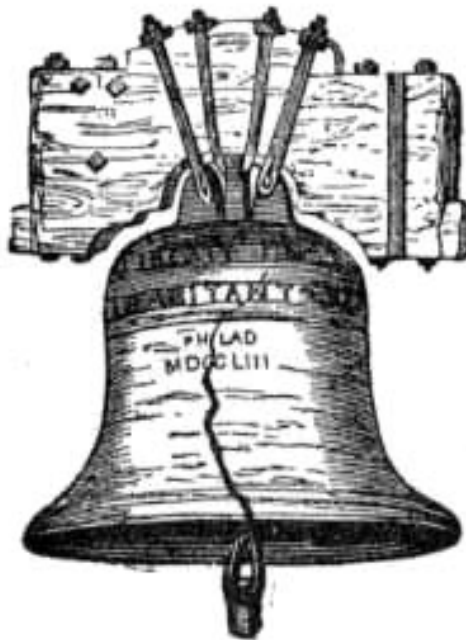


Help Support the  
Civil Liberties Defense Center

Civil Liberties Defense Center  
259 East Fifth Ave., Ste. 300  
Eugene, OR 97401

## Civil Liberties Defense Center

The Civil Liberties Defense Center works to confront the attacks on our freedom and to protect the civil rights of all citizens, particularly activists exercising their constitutional rights.



Injustice anywhere is a  
threat to justice everywhere.

—Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Letter from Birmingham Jail, 4/16/63

## The Civil Liberties Defense Center

is a nonprofit organization of practicing public interest attorneys and organizers focused on defending and upholding the rights of activists through education, outreach, litigation, and legal support and assistance. The CLDC was founded in January 2003.

Corporations are paying for laws to be placed in federal and state statutes that blatantly violate the US and state constitutions. CLDC focuses on challenging and changing these statutes when they are used to censor and eliminate the rights of citizens engaged in political expression.

The USA PATRIOT Act (actually an acronym for **U**niting & **S**trengthening **A**merica by **P**roviding **A**ppropriate **T**ools **R**equired to **I**ntercept & **O**bsttruct **T**errorism) is the largest threat to our civil liberties in modern history. CLDC is a nationally recognized expert on the Act and is frequently requested to speak about its restrictions on our rights



and the domestic implications of the US's "war on terrorism." In the past year, we've given 36 presentations about the USA PATRIOT Act to university audiences, civic groups, conferences, Republican groups, social change and environmental activists, and church groups.

# Our Goals:

- 1) Helping the progressive social change movement become more effective by educating people about their rights.
- 2) Providing activists with adequate legal protection from corporate and governmental attacks on their civil liberties.
- 3) Helping organize a movement to confront threats to our rights from the USA PATRIOT Act and other right-wing initiatives.

To accomplish these goals, we provide free or reduced-rate legal representation (or provide referrals) for people working on a variety of environmental and social justice causes. We act as a resource for activists and activist attorneys by providing free legal advice, legal research, legal briefs and trainings. We also organize other attorneys, activists and the general public in campaigns to stop attacks on civil liberties.

Although CLDC is a new organization, we've accomplished an enormous amount of work in just the past year and filled a critical need within the broader social change movement in Oregon and in other areas. Our accomplishments include:

- Providing free legal representation to 35 people arrested for civil disobedience; 30 were acquitted.
- Providing briefs and legal research to attorneys defending 40 other activists.
- Producing "Know Your Rights" outreach materials and giving 50 "Know Your Rights" trainings at different events.
- Conducting five grand jury trainings that teach people their rights when subpoenaed by a grand jury and represented individuals subpoenaed to a grand jury based upon their political affiliations.
- Representing Portland-area Muslim organizations and successfully hindering the first-ever attempt to subpoena religious records by the FBI.
- Conducting three non-violence/civil disobedience trainings.
- Conducting six Freedom of Information Act trainings.
- Representing political prisoners at administrative hearings that restored their "good time" and led to their release from solitary confinement, and improvements to the Oregon State Penitentiary mail censorship policy.

# Our Programs:

## Activist Legal Support

We provide free or low-cost pre-trial, trial and post-trial legal representation for progressive, social change activists. We recruit and maintain a database of activist attorneys and provide referrals. We have developed a "brief bank" of constitutional and civil rights issues for use by other attorneys. We develop, produce and distribute educational and outreach materials, as well as train key volunteers to provide "Know Your Rights" trainings to activists around the country, particularly in areas that are seldom served. We continue to develop mentor-intern relationships with public-interest-minded law students. Additionally, we provide legal support for mass protests.

## Media and Public Relations

We provide expert testimony at public hearings, submit administrative comments, and write letters to the editor and guest columns to various media outlets about current civil liberties issues.

## Strategic Civil Rights Litigation

We successfully challenged the constitutionality of the "Interfering with Agricultural Operations" statute, which was utilized by prosecutors to suppress the free speech of peaceful protestors at timber sales. We also initiate civil litigation against government and law enforcement.

## Anti-USA Patriot Act Organizing

We organize citizens and groups to take action to stop the USA PATRIOT Act by: sponsoring events that educate the public about the Act; recruiting new activists to work on campaigns to draw attention to threats to our civil liberties; collaborating with other groups on campaigns against the Act; and serving as a clearinghouse for information about the Act.

## Political Prisoner Project

We research and develop strategic litigation to assist political prisoners in maintaining access to mail and adequate health care, and to prevent harassment and punishment by prison officials based upon inmates' personal ethics. We also visit, educate, and provide legal materials to political prisoners.

# Join the Civil Liberties Defense Center

## Membership fees:

- \$0 low-income activist
- \$35 annual non-attorney
- \$100 annual attorney
- \$300 annual law firm
- \$500 lifetime non-attorney
- \$1,000 lifetime attorney

*Send a check or money order to:*  
**Civil Liberties Defense Center**  
**259 East Fifth Ave., Ste. 300**  
**Eugene, OR 97401**

**Thanks for standing up for  
your rights!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Area(s) of Interest:** \_\_\_\_\_

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